

FEATURES

Celebrating birdlife with BC, TTFNC



The beautiful Trinidad motmot.

LESTER DOODNATH

TRINIDAD and Tobago is very biodiverse when it comes to birds with just over 470 bird species being recorded. This includes approximately 227 year-round resident species and 168 regular seasonal



migrants, approximately 50 species are listed as wanderers or vagrants.

BirdsCaribbean (BC) is a regional NGO that comprises a diverse community of people working for a sustainable future for the region through preservation of birds and their habitats. One of these efforts is to increase awareness and appreciation of the

region's unique bird life through an annual Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival (CEBF). The theme of the 2016 festival is "Spread your wings for bird conservation". TTFNC has been involved with BC over the last eight years with the CEBF in order to raise peo-

ples' care and concern about birds. The festival celebrates the exceptionally high endemism in the region - 173 species of birds call the Caribbean home and which are found nowhere else in the world. TTFNC Continues to page 6B



TENDER NOTICE Projects at UTT Campuses

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) is inviting bids from suitably qualified Contractors to undertake the following projects:

AIR CONDITION AND DUCT CLEANING

Request for Quotations (RFQ) Number	Project Description	Site Visit Date	Site Visit Time	Closing Date
RFQ# PL/FM/16/01	Provision of Air Condition and Duct Cleaning Services to clean the ventilation systems at the Point Lisas Campus	September 7, 2016	11:00 am	September 23, 2016
RFQ#PL /FM/16/03	For Remedial Works to the Air Conditioning System at the Technology Building and Canteen at the Point Lisas Campus	September 6, 2016	9:30 am	September 29, 2016

THERMODYNAMICS LABORATORY

Request for Quotations (RFQ) Number	Project Description	Site Visit Date	Site Visit Time	Closing Date
RFQ# PL/FM/16/02	Establishment of Thermodynamics Laboratory at the Point Lisas Campus	September 6, 2016	1:30 pm	September 22, 2016

Minimum Requirements:

1. A valid VAT compliance certificate.
2. A valid National Insurance compliance certificate.
3. A valid Corporation / Income Tax compliance certificate.
4. Certificate of Registration (for businesses) and Certificate of Incorporation / Continuance and up to date Annual Returns (for companies).
5. Copies of Insurances (Workmen's Compensation, Public Liability, Contractor's All Risk).
6. Financial Statements (last three years).
7. Company Profile, including work history and résumés of key personnel

Cost of Participation:

RFQ packages cost **Five Hundred Trinidad and Tobago Dollars (TT\$500.00) EACH. This is a non-refundable fee.**

Viewing Scope of Works and Updates:

The Scope of Works for this project will be posted on UTT's website at www.utt.edu.tt. Click on the Tender Information Tab under "News, Docs & Multimedia".

NOTE: Posted excerpts of the SCOPE OF WORKS are for INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY and are NOT Tender Documents (i.e. they serve to help interested contractors understand the nature of the works before making a purchase).

Application Process:

Interested Contractors must pay the participation fee at any branch of First Citizens Bank using UTT's bank account # 142-9625 and submit a copy of the deposit slip via email to mtcsecretary@utt.edu.tt. RFQ packages will be distributed at the O'Meara Campus from August 15th, 2016 to August 26th, 2016.

Closing Time:

All bids must be submitted by **12:00 noon** on the closing date listed in the table above. Bids are to be placed in the Tender Box located at UTT's Administration Building at Lots 74-98 O'Meara Industrial Estate, O'Meara, Arima and addressed to The Secretary, Management Tenders Committee. Sample bid labels are available in the RFQ tender package.

Please be advised that late Bids will not be accepted.

Opening of Tenders:

Tenders will be opened at the O'Meara Campus **12:20 p.m.** on the closing date listed in the table above. **ONLY applicants or their representatives who submitted a bid on/or before the stipulated deadline may be present at the opening of the Tenders.**

General Information:

UTT reserves the right to reject any or all proposals without incurring any cost to the applicants or any of them and it does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any bid.

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FEATURES

Join in conservation of our birds

TTFNC from page 5B

TT has two endemic birds: the pawi or Trinidad piping-guan (Pipile pipile) and the Trinidad motmot (Momotus bahamensis).

These endemic birds are unique examples of the Caribbean's

natural heritage, and they often occupy specialised niches in the ecology of the islands where they live. This year's theme raised awareness about the different laws and programmes that protect our unique birds and how everyone can participate in activities

that help safeguard their long-term survival.

The Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club (TTFNC) is a society for the study of natural history, and is one of the oldest clubs existing in TT. This year the club celebrates 125 years and

is celebrating biodiversity including bird diversity.

This May there was a CEBF talk at the monthly meeting of the TTFNC as well as a talk on bird diversity and various activities at the Green Market in Santa Cruz.

The TTFNC also

raises awareness of birds and bird habitats by monthly bird trips and sometimes displays such as that of TTFNC held at the National Museum in May and June this year.

In May, the bird group walked the Cumuto Rail Line, flanking the Aripo Savanna and saw the area's specialities including sulphury flycatcher (*Tyrannopsis sulphurea*) and red-bellied macaws (*Orthopsittaca manilatus*). And, in June the club overnighted on Monos Island where the overnights heard mysterious nocturnal bird calls (believed to be that of rufous nightjar (*Antrostomus rufus*)).

The TTFNC is also affiliated with the Trinidad and Tobago Bird Status and Distribution Committee (TTBSDC).

This committee evaluates reports of birds with the aim of converting them into documented records that can be used reliably for scientific studies of bird distribution and patterns of avian vagrancy. TTFNC is also affiliated with the TT Bird Alert forum which disseminates news on birds to enthusiastic birders.

Finally, the TTFNC also publishes quarterly bulletins and a yearly scientific journal which seeks to bring local knowledge of natural history (including birds) both

to academics and the interested layman. So if you are interested in knowing or helping our bird, perhaps you may wish to become a part of the TTFNC today.

We each have a part to play in the conservation of our birds and all other aspects of our natural environment. Let's step up to the challenge and do something positive for our environment now.

For more information on our natural environment contact the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club at admin@ttnfc.org or visit our website at www.ttnfc.org and our Facebook or YouTube pages.



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TTFNC birders at the Brickfield mudflats.



The endangered Trinidad piping guan.